Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

# Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MONTEV 03731 041828Z

44
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 SY-05 IO-13

PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 TRSE-00 /081 W
---------- 053010
R 021345Z OCT 76
FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2325

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MONTEVIDEO 3731

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, UY
SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT SECURITY: URUGUAY

REF: STATE 212490

1. SUMMARY. IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL, EMBOFF EXPRESSED TO GOU THE USG'S CONCERN FOR ADEQUATE SAFETY MEASURES AT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS IN LIGHT OF CONTINUING TERRORIST ATTACKS. THE IMPORTANCE OF UNIVERSAL ADHERENCE TO ICAO SECURITY STANDARDS WAS ALSO STRESSED. EMBOFF CONVEYED THE HOPE THAT GOU WOULD COMPLETE RATIFICATION OF 1970 HAGUE AND 1971 MONTREAL CONVENTIONS. DESPITS RECENT FAA TRAINING OF TWO GOU AIR FORCE OFFICERS, OVERALL AIRPORT SECURITY AT URUGUAY'S ONLY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, CARRASCO, REMAINS EXTREMELY LAX WITH MINIMAL SCREENING OF PASSENGERS. AIRPORT HAS NOT TRANSIT LOUNGES. END SUMMARY.

2. IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL, EMBOFF SPOKE WITH GOU CIVIL AVIATION DIRECTOR, CITING RECENT TERRORIST ATTACK IN INSTANBUL AND EXPRESSING US STRONG DESIRE TO ACHIEVE MORE UNIVERSAL ADHERENCE TO ICAO SECURITY STANDARDS. EMBOFF ASKED GOU TO CONSIDER A REVIEW OF EXISTING SECURITY PRACTICES AT CARRASCO AIRPORT AND TO CALL ON USG FOR ANY NEEDED TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MONTEV 03731 041828Z

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

3. ALTHOUGH THE 1970 HAGUE AND 1971 MONTREAL CONVENTIONS WERE APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF STATE ON 9/30/75 AND BY THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH ON 10/7/75, THE RATIFICATION INSTRUMENTS HAVE YET TO BE DEPOSITED. GOU EXPECTS TO DO SO IN OCTOBER.

4. DISTANCE FROM CENTERS OF PALESTINIAN TERRORIST ACTIVITY, URUGUAY'S LOW PUBLICITY VALUE TO THEM, AND GENERAL TIGHT SECURITY MEASURES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY AND NEIGHBORING SOUTHERN CONE COUNTRIES LEAD TO LOW PERCEIVED LEVEL OF THREAT, ALTHOUGH GOU AUTHORITIES WOULD BE RECEPTIVE TO FURTHER TRAINING/VISITS. IN MAY 1976, TWO URUGUAYAN AIR FORCE OFFICERS, LT.COL.(RET) JUAN C. GONZALEZ (CHIEF OF ALL AIRPORTS IN SOUTHERN URUGUAY) AND MAJOR RUEBN FERNANDEZ (CHIEF OF CARRASCO AIRPORT) ATTENDED AN FAA COURSE IN OKLAHOMA CITY DEALING WITH AIRPORT SECURITY.

5. FAA SECURITY INSPECTOR WILLIAM L. RACH VISITED URUGUAY IN FEBRUARY 1976 BUT EMBASSY HAS NOT RECEIVED REPORT OF FINDINGS OR RECOMMENDATIONS, IF ANY. THAT REPORT SHOULD CONTAIN ADDITIONAL EVALUATION OF CARRASCO PROCEDURES.

6. EMBASSY ASSESSMENT OF AIRPORT SECURITY: MONTEVIDEO'S CARRASCO AIRPORT WAS BUILT IN THE 1940'S AND IS TOO SAMLL AND OUTMODED EVEN FOR THE RELATIVELY SMALL AMOUNT OF TRAFFIC IT HANDLES (TOTAL OF 741,128 ARRIVING AND DEPARTING PASSENGERS IN 1975). THERE IS NO TRANSIT LOUNGE, ALTHOUGH ONE IS PLANNED FOR A SMALL NEW WING WHICH IS BEING BUILT. EMBASSY KNOWS OF NO AIRLINE STOPPING IN MONTEVIDEO WHICH ALLOWS PASSENGERS TO DEBARK FOR THE RELATIVELQ BRIEF PERIOD THAT PLANES WITH CONTINUING FLIGHTS ARE ON THE GROUND. PAN AM, VARIG, AND LAN-CHILE SHARE A WALK-THROUGH METAL DETECTOR WHICH IS OLD AND INADQUATE. EQUIPMENT IS NOT USED CONSISTENTLY AND MISSION DOUBTS THE ADEQUACY OF OPERATOR TRAINING. PASSENGERS' CARRY-ON LUGGAGE IS CHECKED IRREGUALRLY. EUROPEAN AIRLINES MAKE SPOT CHECKS ONLY WHEN THERE IS REASON TO SUSPECT SOMEONE. LARGE NUMBERS OF PASSENGERS BOARD REGIONAL AIR CARRIERS AT MONTEVIDEO FOR BUENOS AIRES' AEROPARQUE AIRPORT. ASIDE FROM THE GENERAL PRESENCE OF AIRPORT POLICE (WHO DO NOT CHECK PASSENGERS), NO SECURITY MEASURES ARE IN EVIDENCE FOR THESE OR FOR DOMESTIC FLIGHTS. IN SHORT, AIRPORT SECURITY IS EXTREMELY LAX.
HAAHR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

# Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994
**Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Concepts:** PERSONNEL TRAINING, SECURITY, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AIRPORTS, TERRORISTS
**Control Number:** n/a
**Copy:** SINGLE
**Draft Date:** 02 OCT 1976
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960
**Decaption Note:**
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED
**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004
**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
**Disposition Remarks:**
**Document Number:** 1976MONTEV03731
**Document Source:** CORE
**Document Unique ID:** 00
**Drafter:** n/a
**Enclosure:** n/a
**Executive Order:** N/A
**Errors:** N/A
**Film Number:** D760374-0106
**From:** MONTEVIDEO
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Image Path:**
**ISecure:** 1
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761090/aaaaczvy.tel
**Line Count:** 99
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
**Office:** ACTION EB
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Page Count:** 2
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Reference:** 76 STATE 212490
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED
**Review Authority:** KelleyW0
**Review Comment:** n/a
**Review Content Flags:**
**Review Date:** 25 MAR 2004
**Review Event:**
**Review Exemptions:** n/a
**Review History:** RELEASED <25 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <09 AUG 2004 by KelleyW0>
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**
**Review Referrals:** n/a
**Review Release Date:** n/a
**Review Release Event:** n/a
**Review Transfer Date:**
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a
**Secure:** OPEN
**Status:** NATIVE
**Subject:** INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT SECURITY: URUGUAY
**TAGS:** EAIR, UY, US
**To:** STATE
**Type:** TE
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006